



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico 87117-5606, (505) 846-5991. DSN 246-5991

Oct. 22, 1996

New Kirtland Commander Named

KIRTLAND AFB, N.M. — Col. Gary D. Dills will become the new host commander here next month.

Colonel Dills is currently chief of the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) Issues and Actions Division at Air Force Headquarters in the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. He will assume command of the 377th Air Base Wing, succeeding Col. Elizabeth A. Harrell, who will transfer to the Pentagon. The 377th is Kirtland's host unit.

Colonel Harrell will become deputy chief of staff for logistics for a team of officers participating in the Defense Department's Quadrennial Defense Review, which provides a top-to-bottom look at the entire U.S. military.

Colonel Dills is a native of Clayton, Georgia. He received a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from Western Carolina University, and a master's degree in human relations from Webster University, St. Louis, Mo. He earned another masters degree, in national security and strategic studies, from the Naval War College, Newport, R.I. He earned his Air Force commission from Officer Training School at Lackland AFB, Texas, in August 1971. He is a master navigator with more than 3,000 flying hours in various models of the C-130.



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DILLS

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The colonel has had several assignments at the Pentagon as well as overseas in Germany and at Pacific Air Force Headquarters at Hickam AFB, Hawaii. Stateside assignments have been at Mather AFB, Calif., Pope AFB, N.C., Little Rock AFB, Ark., Norfolk, Va., Newport, R.I., and Dover AFB, Del.

From September to December 1994 Colonel Dills was the senior Air Force representative for “Operation Uphold Democracy” in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. His decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with 4 oak leaf clusters, and the Air Force Commendation Medal. He and his wife, the former Nancilee K. Brown of Lincolnton, have three children: Gary Jr., Thomas, and Angela.

NOTE TO EDITORS: *For more information about this release, please contact Senior Airman Paul Gritton, Kirtland Public Affairs, at 846-7019.*

The photo can be found at <http://www.kirtland.af.mil/pa/images/dills.jpg>